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Excise Police Issue 191 Tickets in Bloomington as Students Return to IU

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (Aug. 29) – Indiana State Excise Police officers issued 191 tickets in Bloomington this week, as Indiana University students returned to campus for the new school year.

Eighty-nine people were cited or arrested for illegal possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages. Thirty-three were cited for possession of false ID and 23 were also ticketed for using a false ID. Nineteen adults were cited for furnishing alcohol to a minor or aiding a minor to possess alcohol. (A complete list of charges is attached.)

Shortly after midnight Friday, Bloomington police and excise police officers investigated a loud party complaint at 1329 N. Washington Street. As a result, dozens of tickets were issued for illegal consumption of alcoholic beverages. All five residents of the apartment were cited for aiding a minor to possess an alcoholic beverage, in addition to being cited by Bloomington police for a noise ordinance violation. One underage female was transported by ambulance to IU Heath Bloomington Hospital because of her level of intoxication.

In a separate incident, excise police also located a missing 16-year-old girl who ran away from home one week ago. Officers stopped her for theft at a grocery store. The 19-year-old male with her was arrested for theft.

"The increased presence of State Excise Police officers as students return to campus is essential to ensuring the safety of all students and adults on and around campus," Superintendent Matt Strittmatter said. "The State Excise Police will continue its efforts to ensure the safety of everyone in college communities by enforcing the underage drinking laws and other laws that regulate the access of alcohol to minors."

Throughout the week, excise officers worked with Bloomington Police Department and Indiana University Police Department officers.

Indiana State Excise Police officers are the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission. Excise officers enforce all state laws, but focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related violations.

All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

The following is a breakdown of some of the charges filed by excise police this week:

- 89 Illegal possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages
- 33 Possession of false ID
- 23 False statement of age to permittee (using false ID)
- 19 Furnish or provide alcohol to a minor
- 7 Theft
- 6 Traffic violations
- 4 Possession of marijuana
- 4 False informing
- 1 Minor in tavern
- 1 Possession of cocaine
- 1 Refusal to identify
- 1 Public intoxication
- 1 Criminal trespass
- 1 Possession of paraphernalia



Photo: Some of the alcoholic beverages seized by excise police officers in Bloomington this weekend.